

Appl. Serial No. 09/802,875
Amendment dated October 5, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 5, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant has amended the Specification for matters of form, and has proposed a revision of original Fig. 4. The German Applicant is providing formal drawings, in English, of original Figs. 1-3.

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 now stand in the application, the subject matter of claim 3 having been combined with present claim 1. The claims having been amended to more particularly and definitely define the novelty of the present invention over the cited prior art.

Allowance of the claims is courteously solicited for the following reasons.

According to Applicant's invention, an electrical accessing the plurality of feature templates in the memory to locate one or more primitive objects that perform the one or more predetermined functions.

According to Applicant's invention, however, the system visually simulates the design of the electrical power system, but no parts are actually designed or manufactured.

The program of the present invention provides, in contrast to Sebastian, a system which a customer may use in order to plan and design his individual terminal system on a mounting rail on the basis of a kind of "catalogue" of already available Weidmueller terminals, which are, however, not stored as graphic "TIF" oder "DXF" data but as replicas as shown in Fig. 4.

In the cited Umeda, et al., patent No. 5,544,348, a model is provided that simulates a system modeled by object frames which describe information on discrete events to be processed by the system, such as a production system. The behaviors of a system are simulated including a distribution system is designed from an inventory of components such as terminal blocks, whereupon a simulated replica of the distribution system is displaced on a computer screen (Page 1, lines 5-9). A software routine is utilized to simulate the in-line assembly on a computer screen, with the individual junction blocks

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or terminals being depicted directly as the image of a data structure consisting of individual replicas of elements mounted on a support rail.

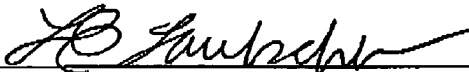
Applicant courteously contends that the invention recited in the amended claims is clearly distinguished from the cited prior art.

In the Sebastian patent No. 5,552,995, an engineering design system for tools is disclosed in which use is made of templates that are representative of a primitive object having a form and a function. A core design module design the part by plurality of interacting frames, and having a chain on which an event occurring in one frame affects another one of the frames. Clearly, this system of Umeda differs from the replica simulation system of the present invention, wherein replicas of the selected terminal blocks are visually illustrated as being mounted on a mounting rail.

Favorable action is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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